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SERVING SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY SINCE 1934

# SPARTAN DAILY

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2004

## Ramadan comes to an end



Syed Aman Ali, a resident of San Jose, prays during the second prayer for Eid-ul-Fitr with his 1-year-old son, Syed Rayyan Ali, Sunday morning at the mosque of Muslim Community Association in Santa Clara.

## Muslims celebrate closing of holy month with family, friends

By Amaya Wiegert  
Daily Staff Writer

After a month of fasting during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, it's no wonder Muslims look forward to Eid al-Fitr, the three-day Islamic festival of fast-breaking that began Sunday.

"Eid is my favorite time — it's the best time of the year," said Rifat Sharawi, a junior majoring in industrial technology who has been a member of San Jose State University's Muslim Student Association since last fall.

"It's to celebrate and thank God for having the opportunity to complete the fasting obligation during the month of Ramadan," said Muhammad Abu-Haneefa, a junior communications major who's been in the student association for two years.

Eid al-Fitr occurs on the first day of the Islamic month Shawal, following the month of Ramadan, said Tarek Mourad, a Muslim who was among the first members of the Muslim Community Association in Santa Clara and has served on several of its boards.

He said the festival lasts for three

days, with the first day being the most important, and that the Muslim Community Association gets about 3,000 people in attendance.

Imam Tahir Anwar, a leader with the South Bay Islamic Association in San Jose, said the festival is the equivalent of Christmas for Muslims.

Anwar said the center rented the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds in San Jose for Eid al-Fitr, and had programs for the whole day including a prayer service, guest speakers, a bazaar, food, rides for kids, astro-jumps and donkey rides.

"We are primarily the only organiza-

tion in the area who does something this big," Anwar said, adding that the center has been putting on Eid al-Fitr festivals since the mid- to late 80s.

"We get between five and seven thousand people," he said.

Lubna Hafid, a Muslim who lectures in foreign languages at SJSU, said Muslims celebrate the end of fasting by giving gifts to kids and rejoicing.

"A lot of Muslims gather, just like any other happy day," Hafid said.

see FESTIVAL, page 4

## Association questions firings

*Students, professors want  
press conference with Kassing*

By Kevin Yuen  
Daily Staff Writer

Some members of the African American Faculty Student Association are concerned with the departure of prominent faculty members on campus.

Nehanda Imara, the former executive director of the Educational Opportunity Program, was fired two weeks ago, and the association wants a reason.

"We're concerned about why a person who was an exemplary employee of 15 years can be fired without explanation," African American studies professor Steven Millner said.

Petitions have been circulating asking for interim President Don Kassing to look into the removal of Imara, said Dorothy Poole, assistant to the president for institutional planning.

Poole said in addition to the petitions, the association is looking into organizing a press conference and a meeting with Kassing, as well as a silent protest march to the president's office.

African American Faculty Student Association student liaison Elgrie Hurd III said Imara was instrumental in creating reading programs and bringing civil rights icons Tommie Smith and John Carlos to speak on campus for the past two years.

Millner added that he was also concerned that the exit of Imara, an African American woman, is an indicator that the focus of serving the underrepresented communities in the Bay Area is going to be ne-

glected.

He also referred to Stella Gin, a student services employee for more than 30 years and another longtime student services minority employee, who was fired recently.

"They were (both) escorted off campus," Millner said. "As far as I'm concerned, there is no indication that loyal employees are either violent or thieves. Why would anyone need a police escort to leave a campus they served loyalty for decades? Personally, I'm outraged."

Millner added that these issues should not be swept under the rug.

"We're going to move forward to get answers of these questions — why were they removed?" he said.

Millner hinted at a deeper problem, as well.

"If you see seven women pushed out the door in the course of 18 months, it raises some questions if any sexism is involved," he said. "When you see they are women of color, it raises some questions of discrimination."

Hurd said the association is just trying to bring up awareness of these issues.

"We want to find out why these women of color, who have been involved with San Jose State and the community, have been terminated," he said. "Is the university still about diversity? Because if we are, it doesn't show."

Poole said Imara and her situation are only one piece in a bigger picture.

"The petition is for looking into

see FIRINGS, page 4

## Hip-hop club holds event on campus

### Urban culture discussed

By Emmanuel Lopez  
Daily Staff Writer

More than 30 San Jose State University students crammed into the University Room on Monday to see "Redefinitions," an event put on by the Hip-Hop Congress.

The event featured breakdancing, performances from local artists and a community panel to discuss the current state of hip-hop culture.

Temesgen Atzbaha, vice president of Hip-Hop Congress, said the event was part of the club's drive to publicize itself on campus.

"We just want to raise awareness that there is a hip-hop club on campus," Atzbaha said.

In addition to the performances and panel, the club also served refreshments and held a raffle to give away promotional compact discs, Atzbaha said.

Local hip-hop artists, disc jockeys and dancers came from all over

the Bay Area to participate in the event, Atzbaha said.

Chris Gonzales, a senior civil engineering major, said he heard about the event through the fliers that were posted throughout the campus.

Gonzales said it was interesting to see so many different aspects of hip-hop culture in one place.

"It's cool that all the elements got together," Gonzales said. "They have performances, DJs, emcees and stuff all here."

Steven Joyce, an undeclared sophomore, also heard about the event through the fliers.

"I like the music," Joyce said. "So I thought I'd go in and check it out."

Joyce said he was impressed with the dancing.

"It's awesome," Joyce said. "I wish I could dance like that."

see CONGRESS, page 4

## Expo showcases sports for people with disabilities

By Kenneth Seli  
Daily Staff Writer

Students and guests of the San Jose State University kinesiology department started the event sitting on the edge of their seats.

Most of them were hustling in wheelchairs in a friendly game of wheelchair soccer that looked like a cross between handball and bumper cars.

The 2004 Ability-in-Disability Sports Expo, a project put on by the Sports and Adaptive Technology class, showcased different sports played by people with disabilities.

Nancy Megginson, a professor in kinesiology who helped orchestrate the event, said the event is meant to help her students understand the nature of disabilities in relation to sports.

"We've invited folks from all over," Megginson said. "When they leave my class they feel comfortable with the sport and they can advocate the sport."

Along with playing a couple rounds of soccer, students also participated in sitting volleyball, wheelchair basketball and bocce ball, which is similar to bocce ball, save the soft nature of the ball to accommodate students with weak grips.

Also, students play blindfolded in a game of goal ball, featuring a ball filled with ringing chimes that teams of three

see ABILITY, page 4



Cara Bowyer / Daily Staff

Polly Quarles, an occupational therapy major at San Jose State University and son Jose Quarles, 10 years old, play a friendly game of wheelchair soccer in the Event Center Monday afternoon. The event was produced by Nancy Megginson, a kinesiology professor at SJSU, in order to make people aware of the numerous activities available to those with disabilities.

# Opposing Views: Will the presence of Bill Walsh provide a boost to Spartan athletics?

## YES Walsh has proven he can find a diamond in the rough.

Take a survey and ask people if they know who Bill Walsh is. Pose this question to people outside of California. Bring it to New York, Chicago and Kansas City, and across all Sen. John Kerry's blue states and President George W. Bush's red states, and one thing becomes certain — those who know football, know Walsh.

Like King Midas, anything Walsh has touched turned into gold. He took a team by the bay, that knew little of winning, and created the San Francisco 49ers empire.

He helped develop a quarterback named Joe Montana to the level of football legend, and found a little known receiver from the seldom-heard of school of Mississippi Valley State University and molded him into the greatest football player to ever play the game — Jerry Rice.

He has enough championship rings that if he welded them together into punching weapon like a brass knuckle, if he ever got angry enough with someone, they would literally get a million-dollar smile.

And now he wants to help transform the struggling Spartan athletic program by leading the charge to find the next athletic director who will have to deal with low attendance at sporting events, negotiating new facilities to aid the aging Spartan Stadium and a faculty movement that aims to bump the athletic program from Division I-A play, or get rid of the program altogether.

Walsh knows how to work magic in tight situations, transforming ugly ducklings into championship-caliber swans.

San Jose State University athletic fans should come out of the shadows and bask in the light of the Lombardi Trophies he has won many times over.

There is nothing better than to have your name attached to a winner.

In Saturday's football game against nationally ranked opponent Boise State University, the Spartans showed the world on ESPN2 that they could hold their own.



KENNETH SELI

We have a whole athletic program like that, filled with potential, yet lacking a captain to pilot the ship.

Who better than one of the living gods of football to use his connections and reach out nationally for the next athletic director?

No longer is SJSU the no-identity school that people outside of the Bay Area have heard of, but it is the place that helped Walsh become a juggernaut of the sporting world.

Suddenly the job of directing the Spartans is not so bad.

It could not hurt that the news could attract scouted players and lost alumni back to the Silicon Valley.

There has always been talk of Walsh and other successful alumni taking an active role in the vitality of Spartan athletics, and until recently, we have had to share Walsh's occasional appearance with Stanford University, which he also obtained a degree from.

We as Spartans got our wish, as a committee headed by Walsh will hand pick from the finest vintage of candidates for the vacant directorship.

Walsh has a proven record of taking diamonds in the rough and polishing them so the world can see their luster.

Helping the Spartans find direction may be one of the hardest challenges Walsh has ever had to face in the sporting world, and we in the SJSU community must recognize that part of the sacrifice he is making stems from the love of his alma mater.

The Spartans have experienced peaks and valleys, and it may feel like SJSU has been at an all time low, but we suddenly have power coming out of our corner.

Just remember that Rocky Balboa might have had the heart, but did not become a champion and best Apollo Creed without the training of Mickey.

We have got Bill Walsh and nothing but sky to reach for.

Kenneth Seli is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

## NO Walsh will not be involved enough to have a significant impact.

Bill Walsh, a Hall of Fame pro-football head coach and San Jose State University alumnus, is serving as the chairman for an eight-person search committee to find a new athletic director. Chuck Bell, the current athletics director, is going to retire Dec. 1 and SJSU must fill the position.

The Spartan athletics program has had a problem with attendance and some of the teams have losing records. There is also an uncertainty if there will be a football team in the future.

Even with Walsh's presence, it still is not going to help the department. The only credibility Walsh offers is his name.

It still is not going to change the way the football team plays, or any other athletic teams for that matter. All Walsh has control of is helping to choose a new athletic director.

He is not going to be part of the SJSU athletic department for next year, so that's not going to change anything.

Even if the new athletic director is a good pick from Walsh's guidance, it is not going to change how Spartan athletics perform. Walsh is not going to help how the football or basketball teams play.

Who knows, the new athletic director might be terrible and make SJSU even worse than it already is.

Walsh, who coached the San Francisco 49ers from 1979-88 and the Stanford University football team in 1977 and 1992-94, has had success wherever he has gone. Walsh was directly involved in decisions of his teams, but he will have no direct involvement in the future of SJSU's athletic teams other than helping choose a new athletics director.

If the athletic department wanted to make a bold statement, it would try to make Walsh the new director.

Walsh's presence and experience would be more valuable than just having him choose a new director.

Even if the position were offered to Walsh, I don't think he would take it. SJSU's athletics department is shaky and they're not even sure if they will have a football team in the future.

Walsh is not going to give Spartan athletics a boost with his presence. The people responsible for boosting the athletics department should be the individual coaches for the each team.

It would be their responsibility to give the athletics the jump, not Walsh.

SJSU should be very thankful that Walsh has gone out of his way to help the athletics department.

SJSU should try to persuade Walsh to have a bigger involvement in the program than just being the chair of a committee to choose a new director.

If Walsh were part of the athletics department staff, even in a small role, he would help the program by just having his name listed.

He would accomplish wonders for them and he would definitely boost the program. Walsh has had success wherever he has worked on a full-time basis and he would bring improvement to SJSU.

Having him just serve as a chair for a committee does not cut it, he needs to be more deeply involved.

Having Walsh serve a chair for a committee is a weak move for SJSU and the athletics department should have made a stronger effort to get him more involved.

Hell, he attended SJSU, why not work here?



JOE AMARAL



Illustration by Kevin Nguyen

Joe Amaral is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

## campusvoices

COMPILED BY STACY RUESCH; PHOTOS BY BENJAMIN FAVELA



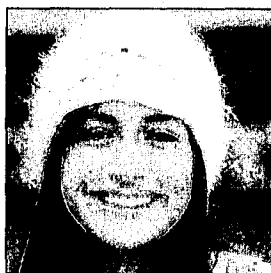
"Yes. Apparently he's had experience with successful sport management groups in the past."

**Colleen Henry**  
freshman,  
industrial design



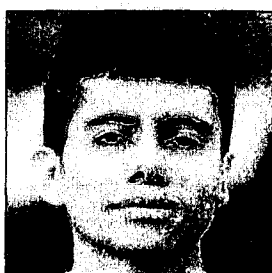
"Yes. Because he's a well-known person and he seems to have a lot of connections."

**Brenda Perez**  
junior,  
business



"No. I don't think his experience would affect anything. It's wishful thinking."

**Jacque Castro**  
freshman,  
child development



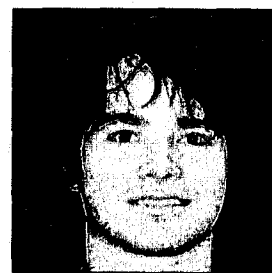
"Yes. If the guy has that much experience, he probably knows good talent when he sees it."

**Chris Ojeda**  
junior,  
accounting



"Yes. Judging from his successful career, he has experience and knowledge to recognize what athletic departments need."

**Crystal Jones**  
junior,  
nursing



"Yes. He has a pretty awesome background. He'll bring a new level of professionalism to the athletics department."

**Brittain Scott**  
senior,  
illustration and animation

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Only letters between 200 to 400 words will be considered for publication.

Submissions become property of the Spartan Daily and may be edited for clarity, grammar, libel and length. Submissions must contain the author's name, address, phone number, signature and major.

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## WHAT'S YOUR POINT?

## Home schooling does not produce anti-social freaks

People don't look at me funny. I rarely automatically get treated with disrespect. But when many people first hear that I've been home schooled, suddenly they act as if I've overcome some huge burden — that my spirit is a triumph to the human race.

Yeah, now that I'm out in the "real world," among normal people, I've risen above my past and have found a way to fit in.

"Well, it seems like you're doing all right now," I've heard multiple times. Wow, really? Thanks for letting me know.

There's this stereotype of home schoolers as either super-hybrid intellectuals or social rejects, shell-shocked upon entering the "outside."

But to stick those labels on an entire group of people, all completely diverse in their reasons for and methods of learning at home, is ridiculous, no matter the group being stereotyped.

"South Park" even did an episode with home schoolers. The two home schooled children opt to enter public school after meeting the South Park kids at a spelling bee — the girl whores herself out because she is desperately seeking attention and the boy becomes an angry anti-social freak.

The act of home schooling does not create social misfits, though it may facilitate them. No, I'm not "normal." No one is some imagined ideal being, and if you think you are you're abnormal for even wanting to be.

For me, home schooling was freedom. Maybe — at times — a little too much freedom. But it also brought me closer to my family, as I was around them nearly 24 hours a day.

Home schooling is obviously not an option for everyone.

Today's society is fast-paced and few parents can afford to take time off from working to teach their children.

Historically, the roots of human learning are in home schooling. Before there were certified teachers, there were parents and elders who passed down trades, rituals and stories. They certainly wouldn't have been able to afford textbooks (hell, college students today can barely afford them).

Some home schoolers actually participate in home study, working with public schools to complete their education. However, my family didn't go that route.

We had workbooks up through grade six when my immediate youngest sister and I were already of age for seventh grade or above. My parents only had so much knowledge of science and history to pass on, as well as limited time within which to teach these disciplines to us. Plus, I just wasn't that curious or inquisitive.

Why ask to learn how clouds work when I can watch reruns of "Golden Girls"?

With so much time on my hands, you'd think I'd learn something practical, such as cooking or gardening. Instead, I ate massive bowls of ice cream and produced copious quantities of friendship bracelets for my nonexistent friend.

I remember spending my days lounging on my bed, eating, watching old movies on American Movie Classics. I remember waiting for the mailman to come, impatient for letters from North Carolina, Ohio, New York, Venezuela. Some letters contained mix tapes, others stickers, pictures — a world

other than my own.

My sisters were my best friends. The twins who lived around the corner were also my friends, but were essentially adopted by my parents as daughters No. 4 and No. 5. We ran around in our large backyard, sold lemonade, rode bikes — did typical kid things.

But I didn't attend school.

My mom had always felt the school system was too liberal, but finally got fed up and removed my siblings and myself from public school to teach us herself — at home.

What she didn't tell us was that she would only ever have us write one paper. We completed a minimal number of worksheets, mainly within our first year of schooling at home.

"Learning through living" was her motto. I learned how to write a check when I was a pre-teen, but I didn't begin driving until I was 17, and then didn't have lessons for years.

I don't know what kind of living I did to increase my learning. Like I said, I spent a lot of time at home in my bedroom with my TV, the Internet, my siblings, myself. I wrote constantly. Poems, journals, letters all became my outlets.

For a while I did feel trapped within my house. I did feel that I didn't have friends and didn't do normal teenage things.

I could have met people outside had I really wanted to. We briefly interacted with the local home school group (yes, we band together), but didn't relate to any of the kids there, most of whom were younger than we were.



CLAIRE TAYLOR

Once I left my house to begin college, I was surrounded by more people than I had physically spoken with in my lifetime.

The level of social interaction home schoolers experience will depend on their parents. Neither of my parents are social people. They never had friends while I was growing up, never attended work parties, never went out for drinks. They were homebodies, concerned solely with taking care of our family, and most of my siblings and I followed their lead.

Still, when many people think of home schooling, they think of a socially restrictive environment. That isn't necessarily the case. My experience was and wasn't, but it was one experience out of many, and every home schooler learns in a different environment.

Granted, I've never been social, so if people describe me as lacking social skills, I understand. But I "turned out OK," according to multiple people. I function on a daily basis, interact with other people and am of average intellect.

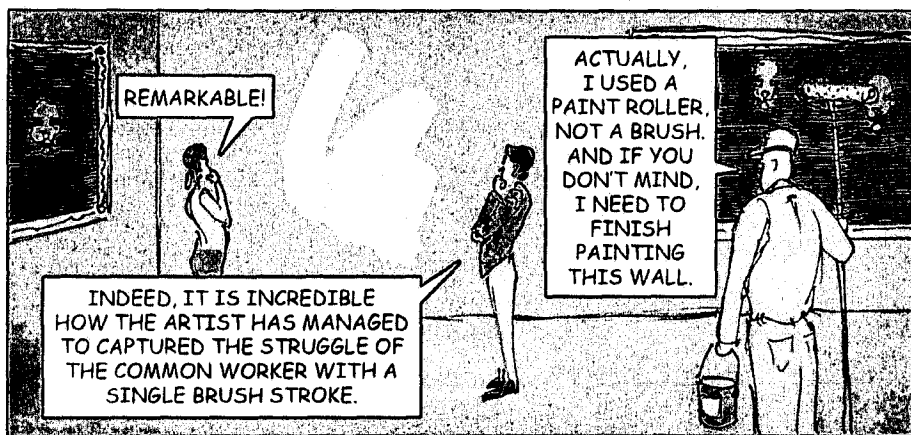
My mom did what she felt was best to protect her children from things she disagreed with. Most people these days don't care what their kids are learning and doing, as long as they are still breathing.

So while some may look at home schooling and a place that breeds social inequities, I found it to be a place where I, as an individual and not merely as a social entity, could flourish.

Claire Taylor is a Spartan Daily copy editor. "What's Your Point?" appears every other Tuesday.

## THOUGHT CRIMES

## KONSTANTIN ABADJIEV



## SPARTA GUIDE

Sparta Guide is provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff members. The deadline for entries is noon three working days before the desired publication date. Entry forms are available in the Spartan Daily office in Dwight Bentel Hall, room 209. Entries can also be e-mailed to [spartadaily@csa.sjsu.edu](mailto:spartadaily@csa.sjsu.edu) titled "Sparta Guide." Space restrictions may require editing of submissions. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received.

## TODAY

## Tau Delta Phi

A bake sale will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in front of the Student Union. For more information, Maii at 921-1290.

## School of Art and Design

An art exhibition featuring student galleries will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Art building. The "Tuesday Night Lecture Series" will take place from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Art building, 133. An art reception for student galleries will take place in the Art building. The art of the Spartan Daily by Kevin Nguyen will be on display in the Art building in gallery eight on the third floor. For more information, call the Gallery Office at 924-4330.

## Catholic Campus Ministry

Daily Mass will take place at 12:10 p.m. "Faith Formation" will take place from 5:45 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. Both events will take place at the Catholic Campus Ministry. For more information, call Father Mike Carson at 938-1610.

## School of Music

"The Listening Hour" concert series with a Student Composers Concert will take place from 12:30 p.m. to 1:20 p.m. in the Music Building Concert Hall. For more information, call the Music Office at 924-4673.

## Phi Alpha Theta History Honors Society

A meeting will take place at 3:30 p.m. in Dudley Moorhead Hall, room 134. Non-history majors are welcome. "The Legal Professional and You" featuring Judge Mark Thomas will take place at 4 p.m. in Dudley Moorhead Hall, room 160. For more information, call Paul at 247-8973.

## Nigerian Student Association

A general meeting will take place at 6 p.m. in the Costanoan room in the Student Union. For more information, call 439-4607.

## Victory Campus Ministries

"The Source" will take place at 7 p.m. in Boccardo Business Complex, room 123. Learn about the amazing destiny God has for your life. For more information, call Marla at (510) 368-8239.

## A.S. Child Development Center

An online silent auction will be taking place until Nov. 30 at [http://www.as.sjsu.edu/childcare/silent\\_auction.jsp](http://www.as.sjsu.edu/childcare/silent_auction.jsp). Items include tickets to Disneyland, Great America and other entertainment events.

## WEDNESDAY

## Art History Association

A meeting to discuss Art History Day on Nov. 19 will take place at 11:45 a.m. in the Art building, room 329. For more information, call (831)469-0332.

## Hope Christian Fellowship

A Bible study will take place from noon to 1 p.m. in the Pacifica room in the Student Union. The reliability and relevance of the Bible will be discussed. For more information, call Pastor Brad Abley at 225-4574.

## Catholic Campus Ministry

Daily Mass will take place at 12:10 p.m. in the Catholic Campus Ministry Chapel. A candlelight worship will take place from 7 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. in the Spartan Memorial. The "Bible and You" will take place from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the ministry. For more information, call Sister Marcia Krause at 938-1610.

## Counseling Services

An Asian, Asian American and Pacific Islander discussion series will take place from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center in the Student Union. A social skills group will take place from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Counseling Services. For more information, call 924-5910.

## Career Center

A job search club will meet from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Building F. For more information, call 924-6031.

## Student Advocates For Higher Education

"Dream Act" an educational forum with Dr. Julia Curry-Rodriguez will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center.

## Asian American Christian Fellowship

A meeting will take place at 6:30 p.m. in the Pacific room of the Student Union.

## Women's Resource Center

An informational meeting for "SJSU V. Day 2005" will take place at 7 p.m. in the Montalvo room in the Student Union. The meeting will be for The Vagina Monologues performers. For more information, call 924-6500.

## SJSpirit

A Christian prayer service will take place at 7 p.m. in the Spartan Memorial Chapel. For more information, call Chaplain Roger at 605-1687.

## Youth for Christ

A general meeting will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Costanoan room in the Student Union. For more information, call 431-2659.

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## Letter: Story on KSJO lacked the voice of Latino listeners

Dear editor,

The front-page article by Maria Villalobos that ran on Nov. 8, "KSJO 'rocked' by Clear Channel," lacked the opinion of the Spanish-speaking community. Although it is clear that the intent of her article was to emphasize the discontent of dedicated KSJO listeners, I still feel that more of the article should have been dedicated to express concerns of Spanish-speaking listeners of the new station "La Preciosa."

When I first discovered the drastic change from hard rock to Spanish music, I was content but not surprised. My friend, who was giving me a ride to school when we both discovered the change, abruptly said, "Now they are really going to hate us." She meant "they" referring to the white community and

"us" referring to the Mexican and Latino community. Her comment might have been a little drastic because it is not proven that only whites listened to KSJO, but I'm sure there might be some KSJO listeners out there that might be putting the blame on the Mexican-Latino community.

The article mentions that the change was made to reflect the market, which is now being drastically influenced by the "Hispanic" community. Millions of dollars are being spent each day in advertising that targets the Hispanic consumer. The radio station with the highest ratings in San Jose is KSOL, also a Spanish radio station. The hard rock being played on KSJO just wasn't improving its ratings.

Readers should be informed that the new station "La Preciosa" is unlike any

other Spanish radio station. Although there are around seven different Spanish radio stations in the San Jose area, "La Preciosa" offers a selection of music that attracts the older generation of the Mexican-Latino community, it provides a bit of nostalgia to the older generation. The music playing on "La Preciosa" is godsend to this generation, and I feel it was a much-needed change in the market of Spanish radio. Not only do they deserve a station like "La Preciosa," but also this station will do well in ratings and the market will benefit greatly. To all ex-KSJO listeners, although your loss is greatly felt — business is business.

Cecilia Carranza  
Senior  
Political Science

## Letter: Schools should teach abstinence and not promote sex

Dear editor,

In regards to Ron Pangrac's column on Thursday where he voices his opposition regarding abstinence being taught, what exactly is your objection, Mr. Pangrac?

Do you object to children being taught to value their virginity and bodies? Do you object to children being taught to hold themselves to higher standards, rather than jumping into bed with each other? Do you condone the psychological detriment girls experience after sex with a guy who only wanted her body for sex?

Abstinence encourages kids to focus on valuing their education and working towards attainable goals. If you believe education is important, why must this society ban abstinence education in favor of free sex where sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies prevail? Studies show that

sex education still results in low contraceptive use among children. Yes, they're children. Why must we encourage them to have sex by shoving condoms, diaphragms and other contraceptives in their faces?

They're too young, naïve and immature to make adult choices concerning sex.

Do you want to see your paycheck going to support high school students' children on welfare?

In regards to your salvation, you wrote: "My faith in salvation through Christ doesn't require me to take the opening chapters of Genesis literally." What the heck does that mean? How can you believe in Jesus as your savior without reading the fall of Adam and Eve literally?

Without believing what the Bible says concerning their sin, you can't understand the reason for Jesus' birth and death on the cross. Salvation through

Jesus requires personal understanding that his death bridged the gap between sin and God, as displayed in Genesis.

The Bible isn't Burger King. You don't get it your way. You cannot pick and choose what you want to believe. You cannot manipulate the word of God to get what you want. You cannot undermine the intelligence of Christians on this campus that actually read their Bibles.

Let me say, though, that millions of heterosexual teenagers in our "fine" American schools are criticized, humiliated, teased, persecuted and demoralized just as much, if not more than the homosexuals, for their mere existence on campuses nationwide. Get over it.

Emily Hughes  
Junior  
Interior Design

## Letter: Column on Arafat not appropriate following his death

Dear editor,

Jennifer McLain made a great point in her Thursday column about a better chance for peace diplomacy in the Middle East after Yasser Arafat's death. Yet, I feel that column, without officially reporting about Arafat's death and not mentioning things he had accomplished

during his lifetime, was not appropriate for the day after his death.

Arafat had dedicated most of his life to a cause and has been a center of many of our conversations for years in classrooms, in debate and on the news.

Therefore, a front-page report about his death as well as his accomplishments would have gone well along with the

opinion column.

However, I am well looking forward to a new era of diplomacy in the region and hope that things get better.

Humad Asghar  
Senior  
Aerospace Engineering and  
Communication Studies

## Letter: Don't judge homosexuals until walking in their shoes

Dear editor,

I applaud those on the opinion page for seizing the opportunity to speak their minds regarding their personal views. I do agree with certain letter writers to the Spartan Daily on being labeled "intolerant."

I want to point out that I have never asked people to "tolerate" my existence. I have always asked people to love and care for me as a human being God created, no more, no less. By the simple words of certain letter writer, I have been labeled as devoid of morals, sexually perverted and lacking their approval to live. I cannot ask that person to change their views about who I am, but I do ask that people refrain from labeling me without knowing the person I am.

In order for some to fully understand my experiences as a gay man

struggling in a straight world, they need to walk in my shoes. I cannot fathom what it would be like to be someone else with the hardships they endure in their day-to-day life. Consider the question: "When was the last time you walked down the street with the person you love, wanting to hold 'his' hand but fearing your safety because of what other people

may think or do?" You may never have to experience the answer, whereas I live this experience every day of my life.

John Jason Jacon  
Senior  
Speech Communication  
and Psychology

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## Tykes on trikes ...



Julia Weeks / Daily Staff

Josiah (front) and Gabriela Myers-Lipton, 3-year-old twins, ride their tricycles home from San Jose State University. The two spent the day on campus with their father, Scott Myers-Lipton, a sociology professor.

## FESTIVAL | Children receive money or other gifts during Eid al-Fitr

continued from page 1

Ahmed Hazim, a senior majoring in finance who is Muslim, said he looks forward to the family feast that he has during the festival.

He said Eid al-Fitr is a symbol of gratitude because it is a time when he shows his mom or his sisters how much he cares by giving them some money.

Hazim added that during Eid al-Fitr there is a sense of redundancy because people are coming in and out to visit each other all day.

"It's non-stop," Hazim said. "Somebody always has to be at the house."

"One of the best parts of Eid (al-Fitr) is you've built all these great relationships during Ramadan," said Maryam Amir-Ebrahimi, a freshman majoring in education who is also a member of the Muslim Student Association. "During Eid you thank God for allowing (him) to build this solidarity."

Amir-Ebrahimi said that she loves

Eid al-Fitr because it's a day of total communal worship.

"You eat sweets and it's so fun," Amir-Ebrahimi said. "Random people will come up to you and say 'Eid Mubarak,'" she said, explaining that Eid Mubarak means "blessed Eid."

Because the Muslim calendar is based on the lunar calendar, Amir-Ebrahimi said Muslims don't find out for sure which precise day Eid al-Fitr begins until the night before, when the crescent of the new moon is visible.

Muslims don't actually have to

view the moon themselves and usually hear of it through word of mouth and at the mosques where they go to pray.

Amir-Ebrahimi said, but she and her family like to look for the moon together.

For children, Eid al-Fitr is really exciting because they receive presents, such as money, from everyone, some Muslims said.

"During Eid as a little kid you get a lot of money," said Abu-Hanefah, the junior communications major.

"As I've grown up, I think I'm beginning to love to give back ... the best thing for me is to

see the kids smiles on their face because they know they're going to get something. It's a reflection of what I used to get."

During the last days of Ramadan leading up to Eid al-Fitr, Sharawi, the industrial technology major, said Muslims give out charity known as "Zakat ul-Fitr" so that Muslims who cannot otherwise afford to buy food or purchase clothing for the celebration will be able to.

"This year it is \$7 or \$8 (per person)," Sharawi said.

Mourad, the member of the Muslim Community Association, said the specific charity amount isn't critical and that mosques determine the dollar figure based on the minimum amount of money required to feed someone.

The morning of the first day of Eid al-Fitr there is an early prayer called "Salat-ul-Eid," Sharawi said, which is different than any other prayer because of its sound.

"It has a rhythm," Sharawi said. "It's kind of like music."

*"One of the best parts of Eid (al-Fitr) is you've built all these great relationships during Ramadan."*

Maryam  
Amir-Ebrahimi,  
student

## CONGRESS | 'We really thrive on the diversity of our members.'

continued from page 1

Joyce said he was most interested in the artists and the clothing of hip-hop culture.

"The clothing line and the artists were awesome," Joyce said. "It's really interesting how they do it."

Hip-hop music blared from the two speakers situated at both ends of the room as the event kicked off with freestyle hip-hop dancing.

Dancers gyrated and performed acrobatic leaps and handstands as the deejay spun records.

The crowd responded with "oohs" and "aahs" after some of the more spectacular maneuvers.

Afterward, there was a presentation by the Capoeira Club. Capoeira is a martial art developed in Brazil by African slaves that consists of flashy kicking and tumbling techniques.

The room was filled with the rhythmic drone of drumming, chanting and clapping as the dancers

swayed to the beat.

The drone became a buzz as the tempo picked up and the dancers began competing for the crowd's attention in a series of mock fights.

Dancers went back and forth, trading flash cartwheels and handstands as the dazzled crowd watched.

After the end of the performance, the Capoeira Club was met with hearty applause from the audience.

The event concluded with a panel to discuss the current state of hip-hop culture and the music industry's role in influencing mainstream hip-hop culture.

Atzabha said the panel was designed to assess where hip-hop culture, especially the mainstream, is going and what's in the future.

"We're trying to figure out where the culture is going and also what changes are taking place," Atzabha said. "We want to make sure that hip-hop is not being exploited for

profit."

Ryan Walbert, a volunteer for City Year, a nonprofit community service organization for young adults who are 17 to 24 years old, said the turnout for the event was much larger than in the past.

"There's definitely a lot more people here than last time," Walbert said.

"Last time, the event was held on a Saturday and we were trying to attract high school kids, which didn't work."

Walbert said City Year was invited by the club to attend the event and help recruit members.

City Year volunteers run youth development workshops and after-school programs in local elementary, middle and high schools.

Walbert also said he was pleased his group was invited by Hip-Hop Congress to take part in the event.

"It's really fun to be here," Walbert said.

"We're glad we have the opportunity to take part in this gathering."

Walbert said it was important to branch out and reach out to the different communities and subcultures on campus.

"We really thrive on the diversity of our members," Walbert said.

"Any person has the potential to give back to their communities. It's a different kind of crowd here."

Gonzalez, the civil engineering major, said he was surprised with the level of turnout for the event.

"I'm surprised that there are so many people for this event," Gonzalez said.

Atzabha emphasized the importance of Hip-Hop Congress as a place for local hip-hop emcees, artists, DJs and dancers to express themselves.

"We want to present ourselves as an outlet for artists, DJs and dancers to express themselves," Atzabha said.

## FIRINGS | Group wants investigation

continued from page 1

Nehanda's dismissal and looking into if this is from a larger problem," she said.

The larger problem, Poole said, is related to, but separate from, the problem of how the university will attract African American students if it does not have adequate representation on faculty and staff.

"They want an investigation beyond Nehanda and to see if that action is just," Poole said, "to put it in

context of other actions in a short period of time."

Ethel Walker, a television, radio, film and theatre professor, said she just wants to know why Imara and the others were let go.

"Why are they firing these people?" Walker said in an African American Faculty Student Association meeting last week. "If there is no reason given, we can only draw the conclusion that it's racist, sexist and against all morality."

Walker added that the African American community is in a hostile environment.

"Perception is not always reality," she said. "They might say we're not under attack. Well, then why do we

feel like we're under attack?"

Dona Bertain, associate vice president of Human Resources Service Group, said people are not retained for a variety of reasons, including performance, the inability to fit with the goals of a supervisor and being uncooperative with a supervisor.

"We are very careful with non-retention," she said. "We have no trends. It is very individual and thought out and it is a very deliberate process."

Bertain said that human resources does not generally fire people.

"Managers are non-retained, they are at-will employed," she said, which means that managers can leave a job as they wish.

Bertain added that when non-retention takes place, an explanation is not needed.

"Most people who are non-retained have a self knowledge of why it's happening," she said. "I'm not speaking of Nehanda, just in general."

Bertain responded to the accusations that Gin was escorted off campus.

"Whatever the thinking is, there was no police involved. It is absolutely not correct," she said.

Kassing said there was no trend in retention practices at the university.

*"If there is no reason given, we can only draw the conclusion that it's racist, sexist and against all morality."*

Ethel Walker,  
professor

## ABILITY | Different sports featured

continued from page 1

have to stop when rolled to them.

Beep Baseball rounds out the sports aimed toward people who are visually impaired and blind, played by hitting an audible beeping softball.

Megginson said anyone could play as long as they are open to using wheelchairs or blindfolds when appropriate.

Maria Tan, who has used a wheelchair since she was five years old, said she enjoyed jockeying for the ball in one of the games of indoor soccer.

"This is my first time playing it," said Tan, who scored a goal against the opposing team. "It's a little intense and probably a little violent."

Tan, who had recently gotten her wheelchair, said she focuses all her attention on the game when in the thick of playing.

"My wheelchair is kind of new," Tan said, "but when you're in the game, you forget about it. You are so into the game you don't care about (the wheelchair's condition) anymore."

Adam Thompson, a junior kinesiology major, said it was fun, yet awkward to play in a wheelchair.

"It's way harder than you think it would be," Thompson said. "The first thing you want to do is stand up and run with it."

Thompson said he has a special affinity for games for people with disabilities because his uncle

became a semi-professional player for the Golden State Road Warriors wheelchair basketball team.

Nachelle Steffenson, a senior in kinesiology who is president of the Adaptive Physical Activities Club, said the aim of event is to let people know the diversity of sports there is.

"The point of our club is to make aware the sports available for people with disabilities," Steffenson said. "We have sports for the hearing impaired, deaf, visually impaired, amputees (and paraplegics)."

Tan said she is glad the class put on the event so people can get an opportunity to learn more about sports leagues and games that cater to people with disabilities.

"It's fun," Tan said. "They need something like this to happen more often."

Steffenson said the games are vital for people with disabilities because, like everyone else, they want to be involved.

"I think it's (an) important service to provide people with disabilities," Steffenson said. "They have wants and desires, and they want to play sports. You want to focus on the individual as a person, and you don't want to focus on disabilities. In a way we all have a disability."

Maria Tan,  
student

*"It's fun ... They need something like this to happen more often."*

## CLARIFICATIONS:

In the photo story "Channeling animal spirits" in Monday's Spartan Daily, the photographer was not credited. The photographs were by Megan Kung.

However, Manibo said there are more people to come see doctors in a week.

It was also written that the only sexual contracep-

tion offered by the Health Center is condoms.

This is incorrect.

While condoms are the most effective way of preventing STDs, it is not the

only sexual contraception at the Health Center.

The center also offers

perscription birth control, however, birth control does not prevent STDs.

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## Sunday

## 2:07 a.m. PUBLIC DRUNKENNESS

Location: Fourth and San Fernando streets  
Summary: Smith Nicholas DOB 08-26-81 was arrested for being drunk in public.

## 1:47 p.m. THEFT

Location: King Library  
Summary: A report was taken for a stolen compact disc.

## Monday

## 2:17 a.m. OUTSTANDING MISDEMEANOR WARRANT

Location: Fourth and San Salvador streets  
Summary: Watts, Deon 08-15-80 was arrested for outstanding warrants and driving with a suspended license, vehicle was towed by Rebello's towing.

## 2:04 p.m. LOST PROPERTY

Location: Music building  
Summary: A report was taken for property lost on campus.

## 2:49 p.m. THEFT

Location: Event Center  
Summary: A report was taken for theft of a cellular phone.

## 2:59 p.m. OBSCENE/THREAT/ ANNOYING PHONE CALLS

Location: San Jose State University  
Summary: A report was taken regarding threatening e-mails.

## 3:30 p.m. THEFT

Location: Art building  
Summary: A report was taken for theft of a bicycle.

## 4:28 p.m. THEFT

Location: Student Union  
Summary: A report was taken for theft of a bicycle.

## 4:54 p.m. FOUND/LOST PROPERTY/RESTRAIN ORDER ETC.

Location: King Library  
Summary: A report was taken for a found wallet.

## 11:01 p.m. POSSESSION OF OPEN CONTAINER IN VEHICLE

Location: Tenth and Santa Clara streets  
Summary: Osborne, David 06-05-85 was cited and released for being a driver in possession of marijuana.

## Tuesday

## 12:00 a.m. SUSPENDED/ REVOKED LICENSE

Location: Tenth and San Fernando streets  
Summary: Gomez, Francisco 02-02-86 was cited and released for driving with a suspended license, vehicle was towed by Rebello's towing.

## 12:37 p.m. MEDICAL

Location: Business classrooms  
Summary: A report was taken for a medical aid.

## 1:29 p.m. VANDALISM

Location: Duncan Hall  
Summary: A report was taken for vandalism of an electrical cart.

## 1:30 p.m. THEFT

Location: Duncan Hall  
Summary: A report was taken regarding a stolen cabinet.

## 3:07 p.m. THEFT

Location: King Library

Summary: Report taken for two DVD's stolen from Martin Luther King Library.

## 3:09 p.m. THEFT

Location: King Library  
Summary: Report taken for two compact discs stolen from King Library.

## 3:10 p.m. Theft

Location: Martin Luther King Library  
Summary: Report taken for five compact discs stolen from Martin Luther King Library.

## 5:09 p.m. DISORDERLY CONDUCT

Location: North Garage  
Summary: Report taken for disorderly conduct at the 10th street garage.

## 8:16 p.m. RESISTING ARREST

Location: The fountain  
Summary: Broussard, John 12-18-82 was cited and released for resisting.

## Wednesday

## 8:34 a.m. OUTSTANDING MISDEMEANOR WARRANT

Location: Seventh and San Salvador streets  
Summary: Anderson, Samuel DOB 11-15-81 was cited and released on an outstanding warrant.

## 8:51 a.m. THEFT

Location: Martin Luther King Library  
Summary: A report was taken for the theft of a backpack from the Martin Luther King Library.

## 10:27 a.m. THEFT

Location: Seventh and San Salvador streets

Summary: A report was taken for items stolen from the business classrooms.

## 1:46 p.m. TAMPERING WITH FIRE EQUIPMENT

Location: Dudley Moorhead Hall  
Summary: A report was taken for tampering with fire-reporting equipment.

## 1:53 p.m. THEFT

Location: Dudley Moorhead Hall  
Summary: A report was taken for a stolen purse.

## 3:41 p.m. MEDICAL

Location: Other  
Summary: A report was taken for a medical aid.

## 4:44 p.m. FOUND/LOST PROPERTY/RESTRAIN ORDER ETC.

Location: Hoover Hall  
Summary: A report was taken for a threat that was found on a computer.

## 9:07 p.m. THEFT

Location: Seventh and San Salvador streets  
Summary: A report was taken for theft of services.

## Thursday

## 8:04 a.m. OUTSTANDING MISDEMEANOR WARRANT

Location: Third and San Carlos streets  
Summary: Meyer, Carla DOB 11-05-58 was arrested on an outstanding warrant.

## 8:08 a.m. LOST PROPERTY

Location: Traffic parking office  
Summary: A report was taken for a purse lost on campus.

## 9:08 a.m. REGISTERED SEX OFFENDER FAIL TO REG N/AD

Location: Seventh and San Salvador streets  
Summary: A report was taken for failure to register under penal code 290.1.

## 2:00 p.m. LOST PROPERTY

Location: Seventh and San Salvador streets  
Summary: A report was taken for lost property.

## 3:38 p.m. PEDESTRIAN STOPPED

Location: King Library  
Summary: A report was taken for a subject that was ejected from the King Library for disturbing the peace.

## 3:56 p.m. LOST PROPERTY

Location: San Jose State University  
Summary: A report was taken for a lost ID card.

## 4:50 p.m. LOST PROPERTY

Location: Old Cafeteria  
Summary: A report was taken for a lost calculator and a headset.

## 11:17 p.m. MEDICAL

Location: Washburn Hall  
Summary: A report was taken for a medical aid at Washburn Hall.

## Friday

## 12:24 p.m. LOST PROPERTY

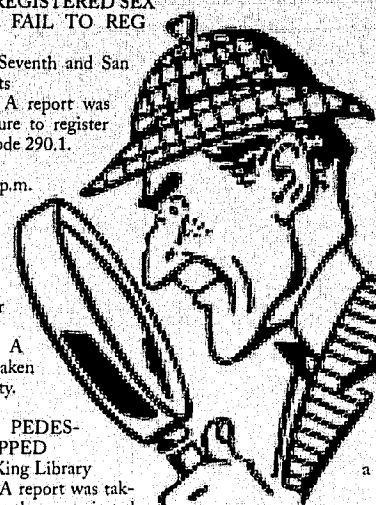
Location: San Jose State University  
Summary: A report was taken for a lost ID card.

## 4:16 p.m. THEFT

Location: King Library  
Summary: A report was taken for a stolen bicycle.

## 11:29 p.m. DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

Location: First and San Carlos streets  
Summary: Gutierrez, Favian DOB 10-05-85 was cited and released for driver under 21 allows alcohol in vehicle.



## CRIME WATCH



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17 Arm bones  
18 Uttered  
19 Pretend class  
21 Shipping inquiries  
23 Goes quickly  
24 Gulf st.  
25 Alpine refrains  
28 Stopped for gas  
33 At — for words  
34 Catch a wave  
35 Ireland  
36 Funny person  
37 Kind of wine  
38 Legal matter  
39 Flush with  
41 Fashion magazine  
42 Taken — (surprised)  
44 Devote  
46 Counts on  
47 Yak  
48 Drink in full gulps  
49 Turnpike  
53 Glove material  
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58 Contributor  
60 Almost never  
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62 Sales pitch  
63 — the kitty  
64 Give in to gravity  
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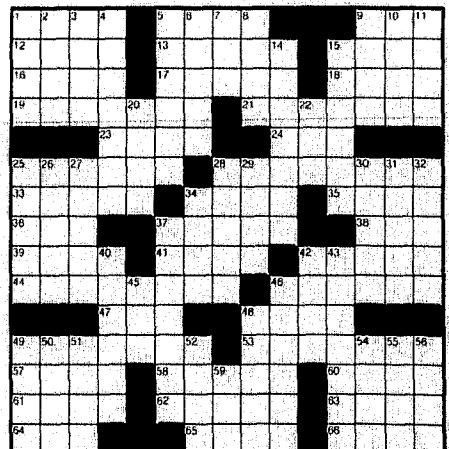
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8 Step — I  
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11 Congers  
14 Tallest animal  
15 Place  
20 Fixes a squeak  
22 "Rope-a-dope" boxer  
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# SJSU scores 86-63 win over Pro-Am Bonds awarded MVP

By Sara Spivey  
Daily Staff Writer

Led by four Spartans in double figures, the San Jose State University women's basketball team defeated the Bay Area Pro-Am 86-63 on Monday at the Event Center.

The team was led by freshman forward Amber Jackson with 17 points, followed by senior forward Lamisha Augustine with 16 points.

Guard Erica McGlaston racked up a double-double, adding 12 assists to her 13 points.

"She almost put up Cricket Williams' numbers," said head coach Janice Richard.

Augustine said after this exhibition match, the team's strongest point is its offense.

"A lot of players on our team can score," Augustine said. "We have people that can run on the court."

Richard had said that Jessica Kellogg would be the team's starting shooting guard, but Kellogg was ruled ineligible to play at 3 p.m. on Monday.

Richard said Kellogg needed a major form cleared by the academic department before she could rejoin the team.

"I have to take care of some stuff this week and hopefully be ready by Friday," said Kellogg, who needs to clear an incomplete and have a summer school class added to her transcripts before she can play.

Though Kellogg was unable to suit up, she was still able to watch her teammates overpower the Pro-Am.

"We got sloppy at times, but we won by 23 points," Kellogg said.

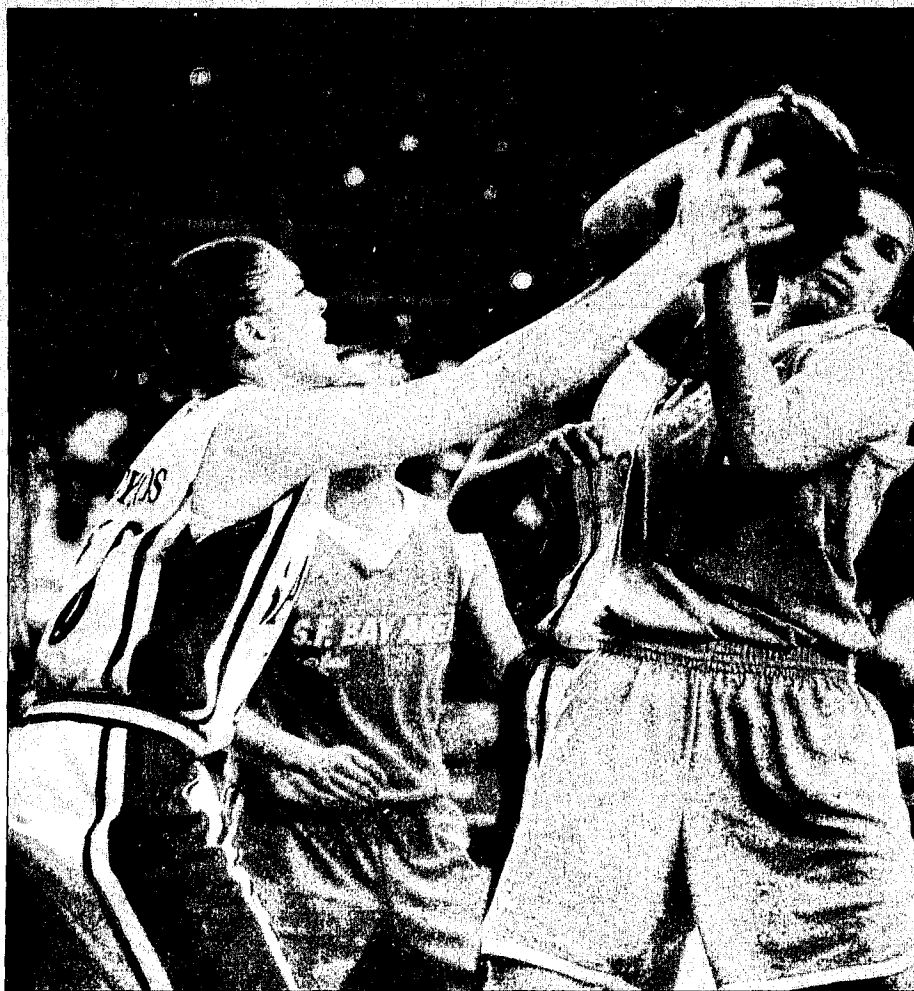
McGlaston said she was impressed by the way the younger players, such as Jackson, handled their first exhibition game at SJSU.

"Our freshmen didn't play like freshmen, and that's what we needed, for them to step up and they did it," she said.

Kiira Rodriguez, a freshman out of San Jose High School, started in place of Kellogg and added nine points in 25 minutes.

"We have a couple new players," senior center Nica Gemo said. "It's their first game and in the beginning of the game they were a little tight, but in the middle of the game they got more comfortable."

With three minutes left in the first



Adam Heyman / Daily Staff

San Jose State University freshman forward Allania Reynolds tries to grab the ball from Bay Area Pro-Am player Jessica Gray during the Spartans' first exhibition game in the Event Center.

half, the Spartans went on an 11-to-5 run to close out the half, giving SJSU a 36-27 lead.

"I thought we went on a run because our post defense picked up," Richard said. "Our post defense was horrible, that's the one area we need to work on before Friday. I thought

we tightened it up the last part of the first half."

Richard expects the regular season to be more of a challenge, considering the number of injuries the Spartans will have to deal with.

"(Kellogg) had knee surgery about five weeks ago," Richard said. "Anetero

Uiagaleilei was out of Monday's game because of back spasms."

Augustine is also dealing with a knee injury, Richard said.

The Spartans will open up regular season play against Sacramento State University, with tip off scheduled for 7 p.m. on Friday at the Event Center.

## Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Barry Bonds won his record seventh Most Valuable Player award Monday, putting him back in another batter's box, where the national media peppered him with questions about the steroid controversy that surrounded his 2004 season.

This is what it's come to for Bonds. No other baseball player has won more than three MVP awards, and at age 40, Bonds just claimed his fourth consecutive National League MVP award for the San Francisco Giants.

Yet, Bonds' afternoon conference call with reporters included as many questions about the BALCO steroid controversy as it did questions about his place in history.

"I just want to know how come I can't get on the news for getting better with age," said Bonds, who became the oldest player to win the MVP award. "It cracks me up."

Bonds shed no new light into the federal investigation of the BALCO laboratories in Burlingame, Calif. His personal trainer, Greg Anderson, was indicted for illegally distributing steroids, and Bonds testified before a grand jury, but he has denied using steroids.

Last month, the San Francisco Chronicle reported that it had obtained an audio recording of Anderson saying Bonds used a performance-enhancing drug during the 2003 season and that Bonds expected advance warning before being forced to submit to a drug test.

Given a chance to refute that story Monday, Bonds said: "I'm 40 years old. I don't owe you a response."

He fouled off several other BALCO questions, too, but still managed to find humor on other topics.

In the Bay Area, he's still revered for his on-field accomplishments. Five of his MVP awards have come with the Giants, and Vernon Glenn of KRON-TV in San Francisco said the local fans haven't let the BALCO scandal overshadow that.

"I think the general fan who pays for a ticket is there for one thing and one thing only: They want to be entertained by Barry Bonds," said Glenn, who worked at WBAL-TV for three

years before moving to San Francisco in 1990. "Let's face it, there's nobody like him. I think the average sports fan turns a blind eye to the BALCO stuff. Everyone loves a winner, especially in San Francisco."

Winning the MVP at age 40, Bonds surpassed Willie Stargell, who was 39 years, eight months when he shared the NL award with Keith Hernandez in 1979.

In the four major North American sports — baseball, football, basketball and hockey — Wayne Gretzky is the only athlete with more MVP awards than Bonds. Gretzky won nine such NHL awards (eight straight), and the next closest, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, won six in the NBA.

"I can't explain it," Bonds said. "I don't understand how God has blessed me to do what I'm doing. If it I could explain it, I would. I'm as amazed as anybody."

"I had some time with Michael Jordan a couple days ago, and he said, 'Do you understand what you're going?' I said 'No.' I said, 'Did you?' He said, 'No.'"

But Bonds noted how Jordan won six NBA titles with the Chicago Bulls. Bonds has yet to win his first.

"I want a championship," he said. "I think that's the one thing (preventing) me from enjoying these other accomplishments."

In the MVP voting, Bonds received 24 of 32 first-place votes from the Baseball Writers' Association of America. Los Angeles Dodgers third baseman Adrian Beltre finished second in the voting, and three St. Louis Cardinals — Albert Pujols, Scott Rolen and Jim Edmonds — rounded out the next three spots.

For Bonds, it was one of the best offensive seasons of his career, even though pitchers rarely challenged him, as he shattered his major league record for walks with 232.

Bonds hit .362 to win his second NL batting title and posted an astounding .609 on-base percentage, shattering his record of .582 set two years ago.

He also hit 45 home runs, raising his career total to 703. Next year, he has a chance to pass Babe Ruth (714) and Hank Aaron (755) to become baseball's all-time home run leader.

## Lacrosse club 'brawls' with old rivals

By Amber Sheldon  
Special to the Daily

It has been more than a decade since the word lacrosse has been incorporated into the San Jose State University sports lexicon, but that was not apparent based on the resurrected Men's Lacrosse Club's performance this past weekend.

The Spartans faced off against old foes Humboldt State University, University of the Pacific and University of Nevada-Reno at William Street Park in downtown San Jose on Saturday.

SJSU hosted its first Spartan Fall Brawl tournament, defeating Humboldt State and Pacific with an identical score of 6-4 before falling to Nevada in the final match, 6-1.

Spartan midfielder Ken Kwok said their second-place finish was surprising because they've never played as a full team prior to the tournament.

"We're just a rag-tag team," Kwok said. "You can tell by our helmets and gloves being different, and our uniforms just came today."

In the first game against Humboldt, SJSU won the opening face-off at center field and dominated the first 20-minute half, registering five goals with Spartan female goaltender Sayako Kamo posting a perfect performance in the crease.

Humboldt hit strong in the second half, managing to end Kamo's shutout bid after just 55 seconds of play. The visiting team would find the back of the net three more times, but not before SJSU's Rick Serena provided the Spartans with an insurance goal at 10:34.

Spartan head coach Derek de Lemos said Serena, an ex Navy Seal, is a two-time All-Western Conference Lacrosse League player and an excellent team player.

"He's not selfish at all," de Lemos said. "He has a lot of assists because he's always looking to set up the other guys on the team. If he wanted to, he could probably take over the game as well."

Despite Serena's lone goal in the final frame, de Lemos said he felt his team didn't want it as badly as they had in the first half.

"(In the first half) they were going after the ball full speed and they didn't have any fear," de Lemos said. "Then they got a little complacent and relaxed."

Spartan midfielder Ken Kwok said the breakdown in defense may have been a result of not having enough substitutes on the sideline.

"On defense, we only have five long polls and just two as far as rotating," Kwok said. "I think we may have be-

come a little too confident and we were also getting tired."

The SJSU club didn't rest long before its next match-up against Pacific.

Within the first five minutes there were two penalties, as SJSU's Ken Kwok was assessed 90 seconds in the sin bin for slashing, and less than a minute later a member of the Pacific squad was called for an illegal body check to the head.

Back at even strength, the Tigers jumped on the board first with a wrap-around diving shot that connected with the far side of the Spartan net.

The Spartans answered back to tie the game at one goal apiece, but the Pacific regained the lead a minute later with 11:13 remaining on the clock.

SJSU attacker Bobby Stenrose slammed the ball into the Tiger's cage twice to provide the Spartans with their first lead and his third and fourth goals of the tournament.

De Lemos said he recruited Stenrose from Oregon without ever having seen him play.

"He was an attackman from up there and I knew we needed attack help," de Lemos said. "He had only made it to a handful of practices because he had surgery to have a plate removed from his shoulder three weeks ago. He couldn't play until last week."

Following Stenrose's two tallies, Kwok ripped home a hard shot from the top of the crease on a perfect feed from Serena to provide the Spartans with a two-goal lead heading into the break.

Both teams scored twice in last stanza, but SJSU would come out on top to face the Nevada Wolf Pack in the final game to determine the tournament's first victor.

De Lemos said the Wolf Pack is a physical team that made the playoffs the last three years in a row.

"That's the level we need to be at. The way we played the first half of the first game (against Humboldt), that's the level that can compete with them," de Lemos said.

Serena once again won the opening face-off, but it would be a rare moment of control for the Spartans. The Wolf Pack immediately regained possession of the ball and kept pressure on the SJSU defense throughout the game.

Once again, the opposition would score first as Nevada solved Spartan goalie Kamo at 15:15 of the game.

The Wolf Pack registered three more goals before de Lemos called for a time-out to try and refocus his team.

SJSU defenseman Yasser Brenes said there were injuries that hindered the team's ability to keep up with the Wolf Pack.

"They were just a sounder team all

around that knew how to work with each other with passing, shooting, actual plays and development, and they're a lot faster than us," Brenes said.

The Spartans had a few close calls in the final minutes of the first when attacker Bobby Stenrose's shot sailed just wide of the Nevada net and a last second scramble in the crease almost spoiled the Wolf Pack goalie's first half shutout.

At the start of the second half, Stenrose was given a 45 second technical foul, providing the Wolf Pack with a man-up opportunity. Nevada capitalized on the play with its fifth goal of the contest.

Stenrose said the 5-0 lead was mainly due to Nevada's ability to mark its man, whereas the Spartans were unable to effectively countermark.

"They were sticking with us. They were playing way tighter man-on-man defense," Stenrose said. "The reason I was getting the ball so much in the first two games is because they were playing regular 1D. (Nevada) tightened up on me really well. They were forcing turnovers."

With 7:49 left to play, Stenrose was finally able to break free and prevent SJSU from being blanked by Nevada when his hard shot from the slot found the back of the net, which would stand as the Spartans' only goal of the game.

Serena said he wasn't disappointed with the final score.

"They've been practicing. We haven't had a full squad out at practice at all, so to be 6-1 with these guys, that's nothing," Serena said. "Next season when we go up to Reno and play them at home they're going to be shocked. We're going to throttle those guys."

Next year the Spartan Lacrosse Club will be able to register with U.S. Lacrosse as a Division I team for the 2005-06 season, but for now it will continue to develop as a club during its unofficial inaugural run.

Club founder Patrick Burchfiel had never participated in a lacrosse game prior to Saturday's tournament. He wasn't able to author a goal or an assist, but said he had fun regardless.

"I had a blast despite being nervous because of my lack of experience playing lacrosse," Burchfiel said. "Overall, I was really proud of my teammates and how they performed."

Just a few months ago, Stenrose had his doubts as to whether the club would survive.

"In the beginning we weren't even sure the team was going to happen," Stenrose said. "From here we're going to continue building, and San Jose is going to have a team — a great team."

For further updates, check out the club's Web site at [www.sjsulacrosse.com](http://www.sjsulacrosse.com).

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